



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE
Milwaukee County
SCOTT WALKER • COUNTY EXECUTIVE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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For more information, contact:

Rod McWilliams (414) 278-4216 or (414) 235-6592
Pat Rowe (414) 747-4545 or (414) 788-1536

**WALKER ANNOUNCES BUSIEST JANUARY EVER
AT MITCHELL INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**

MILWAUKEE, WI – It was a record January at Milwaukee County's General Mitchell International Airport. The total of 558,488 passengers was 3.19 percent higher than last January's count of 541,201 passengers.

Mitchell finished 2006 with an all-time-high 7,299,294 passengers, a 0.43 percent increase over 2005.

"Passengers are responding to the convenience and ease of using Mitchell. The economic strength of Milwaukee County and the surrounding region means that the demand for air service will continue to grow. Renovation and enlargement of two of the airport's three concourses is complete, and I am looking forward to the opening this summer of an eight-gate addition to the third concourse," said Milwaukee County Executive Scott Walker. Airport Director Barry Bateman noted that flights into and out of Milwaukee have been fuller over the past few months as airlines nationwide have cut back on the number of available airline seats.

Mitchell International is the 50th largest airport in the nation according to U.S. Department of Transportation statistics.

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Construction continues at the airport to accommodate the increasing number of passengers. The improvements include:

- Eight new gates that are being added to Concourse C will open in summer. Renovation and widening of the Concourse C stem, including the security checkpoint and gates, was completed in July.
- A new taxiway that will accommodate two-way aircraft traffic around the new Concourse C gates will be completed this summer.
- Renovation of Concourse D, which widened the airline gate seating areas and the security checkpoint, and included construction of new ground-level airline boarding gates, was completed in December.
- The renovation of the Concourse E stem is nearly complete. A new security checkpoint lane was added to Concourse E in July.

General Mitchell International Airport is owned by Milwaukee County and operated by the Department of Public Works, Airport Division, under the policy direction of the Milwaukee County Executive and the County Board of Supervisors. The airport is entirely funded by user fees; no property tax dollars are used for the airport's capital improvements or for its day-to-day operation. For more information on Mitchell International, visit www.mitchellairport.com.

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